



1-702

GP 3600

3635

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: William L. Elderson
Application No.: 09/888,897 Group Art Unit: 3600
Filed: June 25, 2001

For: BRIDGING SYSTEM FOR OFF-MODULE STUDS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 3635

Examiner :

In re application of :

BRIDGING SYSTEM
FOR OFF-MODULE STUDS

William L. Elderson :

Serial No. 09/888,897 :

Group No. 3600

Filed June 25, 2001 :

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GROUP 3600

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

January 4, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

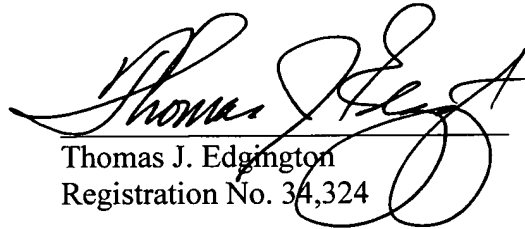
Applicant, in accordance with the duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, hereby advises the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the references listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT". With the exception of WO/00/66844, the art cited in the present Statement was cited by the European Patent Office in an International Search Report issued in connection with a counterpart application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty. The Search Report was mailed on November 15, 2001. A copy of the Search report is enclosed.

Applicant submits that the instant Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement fully

complies with the disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, as revised effective March 16, 1992, inasmuch as under the revised rule 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 there is no requirement for Applicants to explain the relevance of the references cited in an Information Disclosure Statement unless those references are not in the English language.

Applicant notes that although the cited references may be relevant to the examination of the above-referenced application, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement "shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b)."

Respectfully submitted,



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